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PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES  
OF PHILADELPHIA.

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VOL. II.      MARCH AND APRIL, 1844.      No. 2.

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*Stated Meeting, March 5, 1844.*

DR. BRIDGES in the Chair.

DONATIONS TO MUSEUM.

Forty-seven species of Plants of Missouri, including several species of *Cuscuta* recently described by Dr. Engelmann, of St. Louis; and also several of Torrey & Gray's new species of *Desmodium*, *Hedyotis*, *Ambrosia*, &c. From Dr. Engelmann.

One hundred and ninety specimens of Coleopterous, Hemipterous, Lepidopterous, and other insects, from the vicinity of Newark, Delaware. Collected and presented by Dr. Thomas B. Wilson, of Newark.

Mr. T. R. Peale presented a travelling case from the Sandwich Islands, formed of sections of a gourd of large size.

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Mr. Cassin stated a fact, which he considered as worthy of record: that, during the past winter, the Snow Owl (*Strix nyctea*, L., *Nyctea candida*, Sw.) had been observed in the vicinity of Philadelphia, and in the adjoining states of New Jersey and Delaware, in numbers unusually great for this latitude. At a moderate calculation, he supposed that not less than one hundred specimens had been shot and exposed for sale in the markets, and at a very trifling price. Several of them had been seen for many days successively upon the

roofs of houses, chimney tops, and other elevated places, in the city itself, during the very severe weather of January.

As this is a bird almost exclusively confined to extreme northern latitudes, its appearance here, in such large numbers, is to be solely attributed to the great severity of the season to the North,

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*Stated Meeting, March 12, 1844.*

VICE PRESIDENT MORTON in the Chair.

DONATIONS TO LIBRARY.

Report of a Committee of the Delaware County Institute of Science, on the great rain storm and flood which occurred in that County on the 5th of August, 1843; with a Map of the County. Chester: 1843. From the Institute.

Memoirs of William Smith, L. L. D. &c.; by his nephew and pupil, John Phillips, F. R. S. &c. London: 1844. From the Author.

The Committee on Proceedings announced that the First No. of Vol. 2d of the Proceedings, with the title page and index of the first volume, (which latter is now complete,) had been published, and was now on the table.

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The Chairman read a letter from Dr. Charles Pickering, dated Alexandria, Egypt, December 17, 1843, announcing his safe arrival, and communicating some information on the subject of ethnography, which, after a further examination of facts in confirmation of his present impressions, he will submit to the Academy in a more enlarged form at a future period.

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On motion of the Recording Secretary, the Committee on Proceedings were authorized to have reprinted No. 2 of Vol. I., and also to have bound in boards a number of copies of said volume.